

APPLICATION for a Waiver from an Administrative Rule

_____ School District hereby applies for a waiver from certain South Dakota administrative rules that govern school accreditation, using the procedures outlined in § 24:43:08.

It is the intent of the _____ School District to implement the strategies for continued school improvement as outlined herein, and to annually report on the implementation of the of those strategies as described in § 24:43:08:08.

The _____ Board of Education has held a public hearing and approved this application. It is understood that the school district must continue to comply with all other administrative rules, including article 24:10 and chapter 24:43:11.

The school district will continue to submit all required accreditation reports, plans, and certifications to the South Dakota Department of Education on time.

Signature of Supt. of Schools/Chief Educational Officer

Date

Signature of Board of Education President

Date

For Department Use Only

Received: _____

Reviewed: _____

Reviewer: _____

Recommendation: _____

Department of Education Secretary's Action: ____ Approve ____ Deny

Department of Secretary's Signature: _____

Effective Date of Waiver (*Minimum 60 days after receipt*): _____

Annual Report Due Dates: _____

Section I – Application Details

Applying School District: _____

Participating Attendance Centers: _____

Local Public Hearing Date: _____

Local Board Approval Date: _____

Date Submitted to the Department of Education: _____

Section II - Waiver Schedule

Intended Date for Waiver Implementation: _____

(This date is always July 1 for fall implementation unless the district requests and explains the reasons for an alternate date.)

Proposed Years of Waiver: _____

(Maximum of 5 school terms, which begin July 1 of each year.)

Section III - Administrative Rules to be Waived

List the administrative rule number and title for which this waiver is being requested. Administrative rules are available online at <http://legis.state.sd.us/rules/index.aspx>.

Section IV - Course for Which Exemption is Being Proposed

Section V - Reasons for Waiver Request

Explain the reasons the district is requesting a waiver from administrative rule. The district must explain why the plans outlined in this application will better meet local learning goals, enhance educational opportunities, promote equity, or increase accountability.

Section VI - Verification of Administrative Rule Intent

Explain how the intent of the administrative rule for which the waiver is being requested will be met if the waiver is granted. Please note that the teachers of courses for which waivers are approved must be high school certified and the waived courses must remain at high school-level difficulty.

Section VII – Assurance of Rigor (Where applicable)

Describe the school district's plan for offering continuing educational opportunities in the waived content area, where applicable.

Section VIII- Evaluation

DOE Waiver Evaluation Policy:

All students that wish to receive high school credit for a course completed by taking a course equivalency exam must pass an end of course exam. This policy will be effective in the 2007-2008 school year and following. The following guidelines should be noted:

- 1) If the South Dakota Department of Education (DOE) has a course equivalency exam available, the State exam may be used.
- 2) If a course equivalency exam is not available from the State, the district may create an exam, standards-based when applicable. The exam must be approved by the State before it may be administered.
- 3) The student must pass the exam with at least 85% proficiency.
- 4) The course equivalency exam must be passed on the first attempt for credit to be issued.
- 5) The school district must proctor and score the exam.
- 6) The DOE should receive a roster of participants, including the students' name, grade in school, district attendance center, and percentage on completed exam before the start of the following school year.

Is a State exam available for the content area requested? If not, has the district created an end of course exam? Has that exam been approved by the State? If so, when? If not, please state your intention to have the exam approved.

Send this completed application to the Office of Accreditation & Teacher Quality, 700 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501 at least 60 days prior to the intended implementation date listed in Section II.

For more information contact Jennifer Neuhauser, Office of Accreditation & Teacher Quality at 605-773-4774 or at jennifer.neuhauser@state.sd.us.